

THE LACLEDE BLADE.

J. B. JONES, Publisher.

LACLEDE MISSOURI

KEEP BACHELOR CLUB BUSY

PUBLICITY RESULTS IN RECEIPT OF LETTERS BY THOUSANDS.

Rural Route Carrier Threatens to Quit—Fifty Notes Have Come From England.

Garden City, Kansas.—The Grant County Bachelors' club, organized in December to get wives for the members, already has received more than 3,000 letters from women all over the United States, Canada and England, who are desirous of a husband in the Kansas "short grass" country.

In view of the publicity given the club the members say a catalog is now unnecessary, the women who write the letters being willing to deal on a sight unseen basis.

But the members of the club are going to be loyal to Kansas. Since nearly 1,000 of the letters have come from Kansas girls, the members of the club do not believe it will be necessary to draw on other states. The members, however, are willing to help other similar clubs along and will turn over to them letters from women in other states, so that every bachelor in the state who is seeking a wife may have an opportunity to get one.

The headquarters of the Grant County Bachelors' club is at New Ulysses and all the mail is carried overland from here. The carrier, who is not a bachelor, says he is losing money on his job now because the mail to and from the bachelors' club has doubled the weight of his daily load. He threatens to throw up his job unless the bachelors' club quits its "dumb foolishness."

The letters come from every state in the Union and every province of Canada, and an even 50 have come from England.

KING WAS "JOLLY GOOD FELLOW"

George and Mary Given Ovation on Return From India—Saluted Stars and Stripes.

London, England.—King George and Queen Mary returned to England from the most memorable journey ever undertaken by a king and queen of Great Britain.

After an absence of three months, in which they had been crowned Emperor and Empress of India they were given a hearty welcome back to London.

An interesting incident happened as their carriage passed the American embassy. King George stood up, turned toward the embassy and saluted the Stars and Stripes flying over the entrance. His action drew an additional cheer from the crowd in the vicinity.

The enthusiasm of the crowds reached its climax at Buckingham palace. As the king and queen entered, the thousands who had assembled sang successively "God Save the King," "Auld Lang Syne," "Home, Sweet Home" and "He's a Jolly Good Fellow."

Their majesties responded to this demonstration by appearing on the balcony.

Six Women Impersonating Men.

Omaha, Neb.—According to the story of Mrs. P. J. Nelson, arrested here for impersonating a man, five other women of Omaha, Council Bluffs and Lincoln are going over the country wearing male attire and doing the work of men. Who these women were, Mrs. Nelson refused to say, further than that they were friends of hers.

Postmaster Murdered?

Fairport, Iowa.—Bertie Hershey, postmaster at Fairport, was found dead from a bullet wound through the heart in his store. Beside his body lay a shotgun. It has not been determined whether he committed suicide or was murdered.

LORIMER STENOGRAPHER FIRED

Blumenberg, Official Reporter Who Interrupted Witness Will be Prosecuted.

Washington, D. C.—The Lorimer senatorial investigating committee dismissed Milton Blumenberg, its official reporter, because of his conduct at the hearing. Pending the disposition of the contempt charges against him, Blumenberg will be held as a committee witness. He is also an official reporter of the proceedings of the senate.

Blumenberg declined to make a statement to the committee when called and the committee then adopted resolutions to prosecute him for contempt. Blumenberg interrupted a witness and shouted that the evidence about Charles McGowan was faked.

Lincoln's Letter to Mrs. Bixby

Washington, Nov. 21, 1864.

To Mrs. Bixby, Boston, Mass.
Dear Madam.

I have been shown in the files of the War Department a statement of the Assistant General of Massachusetts that you are the mother of five sons who have died gloriously on the field of battle. I feel how weak and fruitless must be any word of mine which should attempt to beguile you from the grief of a loss so overwhelming. But I cannot refrain from tendering you the consolation that may be found in the thanks of the republic they died to save. I pray that our Heavenly Father may assuage the anguish of your bereavement, and leave you only the cherished memory of the loved and lost, and the solemn promise that must be yours to have laid so costly a sacrifice upon the altar of freedom.

Yours very sincerely and respectfully
Abraham Lincoln.

Among the truly great acts of the Emancipator must be counted the thoughtfulness which impelled him to write this letter of consolation to a sorely afflicted mother.

Lincoln's Speeches and Letters

ONLY three years ago the whole world united in loving memory of the one hundredth anniversary of the birth of Abraham Lincoln. With the recollection of that vast volume of eulogy still fresh upon us, it may sound paradoxical to hint that Lincoln is even now without honor in his own country.

Perhaps you have noticed that while paradoxes are not always true, as Mr. G. K. Chesterton would have us believe an astonishingly large number have much truth in them. So it is with this one.

Of course we are all able to recount anecdotes about the young rail-splitter, the country storekeeper, the struggling lawyer, the stump speaker, the presidential nominee, the Great Emancipator. We can tell some of his own yarns and jokes. I wonder if Lincoln's habit of joking is not the very reason we have withheld his full meed of worship. We are so prone to laugh at, as well as with, the man who seems to aim at entertainment. Let us not forget that Lincoln's stories and masterly funning were only escape valves for his feelings.

Well, all these superficial things, I say, we know and appreciate, to be sure; we listen to little sermons on "qualities" that he is said to have possessed; we have heroic half mystical notions about him; he has become a myth. But do we know his words? Have we drunk his bottomless wisdom? Are we vaccinated by the Lincoln literature against cant and cowardice?

The man, statesman, martyr, is written in letters so large that to many it may seem anti-climax to turn to the smaller print and read Lincoln, the writer of letters and maker of speeches. Yet here I venture that he is no less great. No real man of letters is a mere man of letters. You and I and all sensible people have no patience with the man who writes or talks, not because he must, but because he can. The writer who has no purpose in writing other than literary style may not be as obnoxious as some other parasites, but his importance in the real world of victory and defeat is certainly represented by a minus sign. Lincoln is one of the fortunate few whose genius kept pace on all sides.

Loyal Americans have perhaps been too close to the massive features of their hero to admire sufficiently his symmetry. The colossal effect has blinded us to some of the colossal details. The British have done better. I understand that one and only one specimen of American oratory is pronounced perfect at Oxford university and studied with loving care. Of course this is the Gettysburg speech. (I know there are good reasons why Englishmen dislike the speeches of John Adams and Patrick Henry, but their judgment is right in this case, despite their prejudice.) No more nearly perfect utterance ever issued from the mouth of man.

More or less homage, certainly, has been paid to the Gettysburg address. "That government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth" is becoming the slogan of a newly awakened America in her battle against "principlities and powers." The second inaugural address also, and the Cooper

Institute speech with its famous ending.

"Let us have faith that makes right, and in that faith let us to the end dare to do our duty as we understand it."

are fairly well known by name, and sometimes read.

But there are so many wise, tender, magnificent things from the pen of Lincoln, which, though they are within the reach of all, remain practically unread. We doff our hats to them, when they are referred to, and take them as a matter of course. "Matter of course" really spells indifference.

Let us make a journey to the well ourselves.

What of that famous "I would save the Union" letter that he sent to Horace Greeley, in which he riddled the editor of the New York Tribune with the most delicious satire? Do you know it?

What of his reply to the workingmen of Manchester, the letters to McClellan, Grant, Seward, the note to Thurlow Weed, in which, referring to his recent inaugural address, he says: "Men are not flattered by being shown that there has been a difference of purpose between the Almighty and them. To deny it, however, in this case is to deny that there is a God governing the world. It is a truth which I thought needed to be told!" Do you catch the sublime simplicity and modesty of this last?

What of that masterpiece to General Hooker?

General: I have placed you at the head of the Army of the Potomac. Of course, I have done this upon what appear to me to be sufficient reasons, and yet I think it best for you to know that there are some things in regard to which I am not quite satisfied with you. . . . I have heard in such a way as to believe it, of your recently saying that both the army and the government needed a dictator. Of course, it was not for this, but in spite of it, that I have given you the command. Only those generals who gain successes can set up dictators. What I now ask of you is military success, and I will risk the dictatorship.

What of that letter to Mrs. Bixby, "the mother of five sons who have died gloriously on the field of battle?" He ended this note to an obscure woman, "Yours very sincerely and respectfully, Abraham Lincoln;" whereas to the powerful Greeley he did not deign the courtesy of his full name: "Yours, A. Lincoln."

One likes to see that down in black and white.

What of his "Lost Speech," made at Bloomington, Ill., in 1856, at the organization of the Republican party, and so-called because all the reporters, conquered by his eloquence, forgot to take notes? One young lawyer kept his head better than the others and managed to get some shorthand notes. From these and from a remarkable memory he wrote down years after what all surviving hearers unite in calling an accurate rendering of this unique speech.

Much has been written of Lincoln's humor—as though he were a mere jokemaker.

To me this humor was a far bigger and grander thing than his fooling. His anecdotes, brilliant and illuminating as they were, like summer lightning, merely indicated the remote storm below the horizon. His humor was his sanity—his balance. He knew how to do the right as he saw the right and bide the "well done" of the future.

This Illinois rail-splitter reminds me of no one so much as Jesus, the son of the Nazarene carpenter. Lincoln was second only to one in being the tallest, saddest, wisest, most humorous man since time was.

Read the Cooper Institute address and try to find a single statement that could have been made plainer. You will be doomed to failure, I think, but such a failure is a delight.—Exchange

MISSOURI STATE NEWS

Kansas City Theaters.

For the week of Sunday, February 11 the Shubert theater treats its patrons to that most popular musical production, "Tillie's Nightmare." This is the one play where the play and player just fit, as Miss Dressler seems to have been born for the part given her. Nightly shows will be given with usual matinees, Wednesday and Saturday.

Miss Olive Vall, who appears in the title role of the successful Mort H. Singer musical comedy production, "Miss Nobody from Starland," at the Grand theater week of February 11, is one of Chicago's favorite prima donnas. In "Miss Nobody from Starland," Miss Vall portrays the role of an adventurous chorus girl, and she is accompanied by a clever cast of well known principals and one of the prettiest choruses in America. Of course, everyone has heard of the sensational dress rehearsal scene in "Miss Nobody from Starland."

For Missouri State Hospital.

G. L. Zwick, a curator of the University of Missouri, announces that at a meeting of the board it was decided to ask the next legislature to appropriate \$150,000 for a general state hospital at Columbia, to be conducted in connection with the state university. It is intended that the proposed hospital shall serve the double purpose of affording the best medical and surgical attention to the indigent sick of the state and supply the medical department of the university with material for clinical work.

Drury Faces Big Deficit.

Drury college's finances for the year 1911 have been entirely inadequate for the support of the institution, and as a result the school faces a deficit that will amount to several thousand dollars by the end of the present term next June, according to a partial report submitted at the midwinter meeting of the college trustees at Springfield by Secretary George W. Nonemacher.

Annual Debate Question Chosen.

The debating team of the Pittsburg, Kas., state normal has submitted the following question to the debating team of the state normal at Springfield: "Resolved, That the United States Should Adopt a Tariff for Revenue Only Policy." The Springfield team had the option in choosing sides and took the negative. The debate will be held in May.

Postoffice Robber Captured.

John Vail, convicted of robbing the Excelsior postoffice, who was captured by a posse and escaped from the Macon jail, where he was held under sentence of three years in the penitentiary, was recaptured at St. Charles and will be sent to Jefferson City to enter upon his term.

Excelsior Lives in Hope.

The order of the federal court that the Wabash railroad spend \$11,000,000 in improvements of the property is considered to be of considerable moment to Excelsior Springs. Prominent business men of the city believe it will result in the road installing a turntable.

To Organize Road District.

Curtis Hill, state highway engineer, will address a meeting of Greene county farmers at Ash Grove February 7, when a special road district will be organized to further the good roads movement in that vicinity.

Dr. H. Degraw Dead.

Dr. H. Degraw of Brookfield, 95 years old, owner of much valuable rental property in Kansas City, is dead.

Springfield Dry Ten Hours.

For ten hours Springfield was without a water supply because of the bursting of one of the big mains leading to the city. The city was without fire protection all day and there was much suffering among the citizens whose only source of water is the hydrant. Many went to their work hungry, as there was no water available for cooking breakfast.

Wants Daugherty's Place.

I. V. McPherson, an attorney at Aurora, Lawrence county, declares that he will be a candidate for congress from the Fifteenth district. He has a wide acquaintance by reason of years of aiding in the campaigns of others.

Newspaper Woman Dies.

Mrs. Lulu Kennedy, one of the pioneer women of Springfield, died at her home. Up to a few years ago she was a writer of considerable note and wrote many of the political articles that appeared in the Springfield Leader.

Doctors Said Health Gone

Suffered with Throat Trouble

Mr. B. W. D. Barnes, ex-Sheriff of Warren County, Tennessee, in a letter from McMinnville, Tennessee, writes:

"I had throat trouble and had three doctors treating me. All failed to do me any good, and pronounced my health gone. I concluded to try Peruna, and after using four bottles can say I was entirely cured."



Mr. B. W. D. Barnes.

Unable to Work.

Mr. Gustav Himmelreich, Hochheim, Texas, writes:

"For a number of years I suffered whenever I took cold, with severe attacks of asthma, which usually yielded to the common home remedies."

"Last year, however, I suffered for eight months without interruption so that I could not do any work at all. The various medicines that were prescribed brought me no relief."

"After taking six bottles of Peruna, two of Lycopodium and two of Manalin, I am free of my trouble so that I can do all my farm work again. I can heartily recommend this medicine to any one who suffers with this annoying complaint and believe that they will obtain good results."

FREE HOMES

FOR A

Quarter Million Northwest

Montana, Oregon and Minnesota, combined, can provide homes for a quarter million people and give each man a deed to a 160 or 320 acre farm, under the provisions of Uncle Sam's homestead laws.

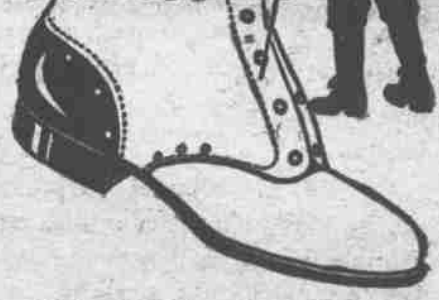
Montana won the premium for the best wheat, oats, barley and alfalfa grown in the United States at the New York Land Show, and she has more than twenty million acres of government land within her borders capable of raising rich crops of these products yearly. You can homestead this land.

Central Oregon has been opened to settlement by the completion of the Oregon Trunk Railway. Crops raised on its bench lands won against the world at the last Dry Farming Congress. Seventeen million acres of good farm land await the coming of the homemaker here.

Minnesota, contrary to general opinion, has over twenty million acres of unoccupied farm land. A million acres of it is homestead land. Most of it is logged off and wonderfully fertile. Write for the latest free booklet published by the Great Northern Railway regarding the particular state you are most interested in. Send a postal to

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